

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**METHODS FOR DETECTING AND INHIBITING ANGIOGENESIS**

The present invention provides methods for reducing or inhibiting angiogenesis in a tissue, by

5 contacting $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ integrin in the tissue with an agent that interferes with specific binding of the $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ integrin to a ligand expressed in the tissue; and methods of identifying angiogenesis in a tissue, by contacting the tissue with an agent that specifically binds $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ integrin, and detecting

10 specific binding of the agent to $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ integrin associated with a blood vessel in the tissue. Also provided are methods of diagnosing a pathological condition characterized by angiogenesis in a tissue in an individual. The invention further provides methods of

15 reducing or inhibiting angiogenesis in a tissue in an individual, by administering to the individual an agent that interferes with the specific binding of $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ integrin to a ligand expressed in the tissue; and methods of reducing the severity of a pathological condition

20 associated with angiogenesis in an individual, by administering to the individual an agent that interferes with specific binding of $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ integrin to a ligand in a tissue associated with the pathological condition. The invention also provides methods of identifying an agent

25 that reduces or inhibits angiogenesis associated with $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ integrin expression in a tissue by contacting a tissue exhibiting angiogenesis associated with $\alpha 5 \beta 1$ integrin expression with an agent, and detecting a reduction or inhibition of angiogenesis in the tissue.